

PHASING OUT METHYL BROMIDE IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES: REDUCING THE GAP

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**Poster Presentation by UNEP-IE's OzonAction Programme
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Methyl Bromide Alternatives and Emissions Reductions
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Overview of Poster Presentation:

UNEP-IE's OzonAction Programme will present an overview of progress underway in developing countries to implement and adopt methyl bromide alternatives. Information will be provided on methyl bromide consumption and production patterns in developing countries and existing and potential alternatives for methyl bromide for the major crop uses, including tomatoes and strawberries.

The poster presentation will also highlight the phase-out requirements for developing countries under the Montreal Protocol as well as approaches being taken by various countries to replace methyl bromide and encourage widespread and rapid adoption of alternatives. The presentation will describe the support that is currently available from the Montreal Protocol's Multilateral Fund to help developing countries phase out methyl bromide and reduce the gap between developed and developing countries. The presentation will outline UNEP-IE OzonAction's current and future activities to help developing countries make the transition away from methyl bromide in a smooth and timely manner.

The poster presentation will consist of the following components:

- **Methyl Bromide Consumption/Production Patterns:** Through charts and graphs, trends in methyl bromide consumption and production will be shown on a global, regional and country level. Particular focus will be on presenting an analysis of methyl bromide use in developing countries over the past 5 years, future projections for methyl bromide use and a comparison of the amounts used between regions. Statistics on use and production will be compiled from the Methyl Bromide Technical Options Committee (MBTOC) and other reports.
- **Existing and Potential Methyl Bromide Alternatives:** According to the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel (TEAP) and MBTOC reports, alternatives are in commercial use for all of the major crop uses of methyl bromide in developing countries. Alternatives for the vast majority of methyl bromide uses will involve Integrated Pest Management (IPM) systems that utilize a combination of pest management techniques and practices. Information will be provided on examples of alternatives that have been successfully adopted to replace methyl bromide in

developing countries for major uses, including alternatives for strawberries, tomatoes, cut flowers, cucurbits, and stored grain.

- **Montreal Protocol Phase-out Schedule for Methyl Bromide:** At the 9th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, new requirements were established for the global phase-out of methyl bromide. Under this agreement, developing countries will be required to freeze methyl bromide use and production by 2002, reduce consumption by 20% in 2005 and phase out by 2015. While efforts are underway to meet these commitments, some developing countries, such as Colombia and Indonesia, are planning to phase out earlier than required by the Montreal Protocol. Information will be provided on the phase-out schedule and examples of approaches being taken by developed and developing countries to phase it out faster than required by the Montreal Protocol.
- **Support through the Multilateral Fund for Methyl Bromide Phase-out**
Activities: Technical assistance and support is currently available through the Montreal Protocol's Multilateral Fund to assist developing countries in replacing methyl bromide and to reduce the gap between developed and developing countries. Information will be provided on the range of activities supported by the Multilateral Fund to replace methyl bromide, including demonstration and investment projects to identify and adopt effective alternatives, policy dialogues, and information exchange and education programmes.
- **UNEP-IE's Current Activities to Help Replace Methyl Bromide and Future Directions:** UNEP-IE's OzonAction Programme is currently implementing several initiatives through the Multilateral Fund to support developing countries in their efforts to replace methyl bromide. Activities that will be highlighted include the development of handbooks, case studies, information brochures and other publications to educate methyl bromide users, and the general public about the importance of phasing out methyl bromide and the availability of alternatives. Other initiatives underway are the development of a policy plan in China to control future growth of methyl bromide and information sharing activities between developing and developed countries to increase awareness about successful alternatives. The presentation will also outline future directions for UNEP-IE's OzonAction Programme to encourage rapid and widespread adoption of alternatives in development. These initiatives include the development of a voluntary initiative for food retailers to purchase methyl bromide-free produce.

